

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-07 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 IO-13 /080 W

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R 201422Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4309

INFO USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 5559

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PLOS MARR TU UR

SUBJECT: MFA NOTIFICATION OF KIEV TRANSIT

REF: (A) ANKARA 5495, (B) USNATO 3961

1. FOR SEVERAL YEARS THE MFA INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT HAS VOLUNTARILY AND IFORMALLY PROVIDED THE EMBASSY PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF SOVIET NAVAL SHIP TRANSITS THROUGH THE TURKISH STRAITS. THESE NOTIFICATIONS, PASSED BY TELEPHONE FROM AN MFA SECRETARY TO AN EMBASSY SECRETARY, USUALLY HAVE BEEN GIVEN ABOUT FOUR TO SEVEN DAYS BEFORE THE ENTRY OF A SOVIET SHIP INTO THE STRAITS.

2. IN RECENT MONTHS, THESE NOTIFICATIONS HAVE BEEN GIVEN EVERY FRIDAY. HOWEVER, THIS MONTH TWO FRIDAYS (JULY 2 AND 9) PASSED WITHOUT A CALL FROM THE MFA. ON FRIDAY, JULY 16, THE EMBASSY SECRETARY CALLED HER USUAL INFORMANT AND WAS TOLD THAT THE MFA WAS BEHIND IN ITS WORK AND WOULD LET HER KNOW LATER.

3. ACCORDING TO THE MFA STATEMENT (REF A), THE MFA WAS INFORMED BY THE SOVIETS ON JULY 8 OF THE PENDING TRANSIT OF THE KIEV. THE MFA RESUMED ITS INFORMAL NOTIFICATIONS TO US ON MONDAY, JULY 19, ONE DAY AFTER THE KIEV'S PASSAGE, AND REPORTED PAST TRANSITS (INCLUDING THE KIEV) DURING THE INTERRUPTED PERIOD.

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4. THE FRG POL COUNSELOR TOLD EMBOFF JULY 19 THAT MFA
AEGEAN/LOS/MONTREUX CONVENTION AFFAIRS CHIEF TURMEN HAD
TOLD HIM THE MFA HAD DECIDED TO HANDLE THE KIEV TRANSIT
IN A MANNER WHICH WOULD CUASE THE LEAST TROUBLE, I.E.,
BY NOT INFORMING THE U.S., OTHER NATO ALLIES, AND/OR
SIGNATORIES OF THE MONTREUX CONVENTION THAT THE KIEV WOULD
PASS. WE ALSO NOTE THAT IN PAPER CIRCULATED BY TURKISH CHARGE
ALP FOLLOWING NATO PERMREPS MEETING JULY 13 (REF B), ALP STATED
THAT OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION HAD NOT BEEN RECEIVED BY HIS AUTHORITIES.
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